

**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL**

To Commissioner For Patents

Enclosed herewith is a Form PTO-1449, any required copies of documents listed thereon, and any concise explanation of their relevance is indicated below per 37 CFR 1.97.

<i>Application Number</i>	
<i>Int'l Filing Date</i>	<b>CONCURRENTLY</b>
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	<b>AALBERT STEK</b>
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	
<i>Examiner Name</i>	
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	<b>PHN 17-791A</b>

Please charge any required fee under §1.17(i) or §1.17(p) or any other required fee (except the issue fee) to Account No. 14-1270.

1.  I certify that these documents were first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months ago.
2.  I certify that none of these documents were cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, none of these documents was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three (3) months ago.
  - Applicant hereby petitions under §1.97(d) that this IDS be considered after final Action or Notice of Allowance, pays the fee under §1.17(p) as indicated below, and I certify 1. or 2. as indicated above.
  - A fee under §1.17(p) is not required under §1.97(c), after the first Action on the merits and more than 3 months after the date of application or RCE, because I certify 1. or 2. as indicated above.
  - A copy of the citations is not required because they were previously submitted or cited in the parent application (or in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/734,775 Filing Date December 12, 2000 relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120).
  - A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English document, as understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the contents, is enclosed per §1.98(a)(3).

The concise explanation of the relevance of any non-English document, as understood by the individual designated in §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the contents, is that the document is/was (check one):

- cited in the specification or considered in drafting the specification of this application;
- previously submitted or cited in the parent application (or in a related patent application Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Filing Date: \_\_\_\_\_);
- cited as an "X" or "Y" document in the Int'l Search Report in a counterpart application, a copy of which report is also enclosed.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

<i>Name (Print Type)</i>	<b>MICHAEL E. BELK</b>	<i>Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)</i>	<b>33,357</b>
<i>Signature</i>	<i>Michael Belk</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>11/5/03</i>

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE												Atty. Docket No.	Serial No.				
												PHN 17-791A					
												Applicant					
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)												AALBERT STEK					
												Int'l Filing Date			Group		
												CONCURRENTLY					

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ex. Int		Document Number							Date		Name		Class	Sub-class	Filing Date If Approp.	
	AA	6 4 5 2 8 9 7							9/2002		VAN DEN EDEN		369	275.1		
	AB	6 1 4 4 6 2 5							11/2000		KURODA ET AL		369	53.23		
	AC	5 9 3 6 9 3 3							8/1999		MIYAMOTO ET AL		369	275.3		
	AD	4 3 7 5 0 8 8							2/1983		DE HAAN ET AL		369	275.3		
	AE															
	AF															

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number							Date		Country		Class	Sub-class	Trans.		
															Yes	No	
	AG	0	8	3	8	8	0	8	A	4/1998	EUROPE						
	AH	1	0	1	2	4	8	7	8	A	8/1998	JAPAN (Abstract)					
	AI	1	0	1	3	4	3	5	7	A	8/1998	Japan (Abstract)					
	AJ	1	1	3	5	3	7	8	5	A	3/2000	JAPAN (Abstract)					
	AK																

**OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AL															
AM															
AN															
Examiner		Date Considered													
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.															